

# **Ward 2 Planning Initiative:**

## **Shaping the Future for Somerville's Southern Edge**

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## issues: what we heard

Traffic & Parking – Pedestrian Safety

Enforcement

Aesthetics

enforcement offices: how we are responding

community development initiatives: what's next?

# Traffic & Parking – Pedestrian Safety

- Additional signage and/or blinking lights are needed to slow traffic
- Other traffic calming measures?
- “Drag racing” down Joy Street is dangerous and illegal
- Parking is problematic with businesses often parking on sidewalks and double parking in streets
  - Residents prefer angled parking on the street (versus parallel parking)



# Enforcement

- Traffic & parking enforcement
- Business permit enforcement – hours of operation, performing work on sidewalks, parking on streets, litter on streets, etc
- Sanitation concerns – garbage pick-up
- Basic Maintenance
- Question about work to be done on Gore Street (by Shaw's)
  - Follow-up: final occupancy permit has not been issued – they have to put in a cross-walk and a push-button pedestrian signal



# Aesthetics

- Streets and sidewalks are littered with trash from the Transfer Station
- Maintenance of sidewalks and trees & plantings is lacking
- Public realm is virtually non-existent – in some areas, there is no sidewalk



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# Key Players in Enforcement

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- **Department of Public Works (DPW)**

- (617) 625-6600 ext. 5000
- Services provided: trash & recycling services, snow removal, street and sidewalk maintenance, lights and lines, buildings and grounds, environmental protection, engineering services

- **Traffic & Parking**

- (617) 625-6600 ext. 7900
- Ensures controlled flow of traffic, enforces City's parking regulations & maintains traffic signals, signs and parking meters

- **Police Department**

- (617) 625-1600
- Provides law enforcement, emergency services, and community oriented non-criminal services

- **Fire Department**

- (617) 623-1700
- Responsibilities include fire prevention & education, emergency medical response, rescue

- **Inspectional Services Department (ISD)**

- 617-625-6600 ext. 5600
- Provides permitting, plan review, inspections and related services in compliance with the Mass State Building Code and Somerville Zoning Ordinances

- **Health**

- (617) 625-6600 ext. 4300
- Provides public health services, maintaining health & wellness of citizens through related policymaking; school health programs, public health education campaigns, and public health regulation unit

- **Licensing Commission**

- Responsible for issuing various types of licenses, adopting and enforcing rules and regulations pertaining to such licenses as well as local ordinances and laws

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Storefront Improvement Program

Streetscape Enhancements

Waste Transfer Station Relocation



# Storefront Improvement Project

- 86 Joy Street façade improvements
- Auto-related uses could be better contained with improved storefronts



# Streetscape Enhancements

- Role of public art
  - Sculpture, Murals, Sidewalks, etc
- Gateway Feature
- Placemaking
- Pedestrian Amenities



Incorporating infrastructure  
Granville Island, Vancouver



Tile Painted Sidewalk  
Berkeley, CA



Bronze elements in walkway  
Blue Springs, MO



# Waste Transfer Station Relocation

- Relocation of large station
- Two-acre City-owned parcel will become available for redevelopment
- In negotiation – hoping to move the station within five years



# Questions?

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